

St Mary's College Sport Guidelines

Rationale

Sport is an essential component of St Mary's College and is an integral part of the holistic education of our students.

- Students are encouraged to participate in the College's sporting teams.
- Sport in this school reflects the principles of equity.
- Emphasis is placed on safe sport practices through coaching which seeks to develop fitness, skills, practices and protection aimed at minimising injury.

Sporting programs and activities lead to:

- The development of skills and participation in a healthy lifestyle choice.
- Opportunities for all children to participate, regardless of ability, in inter or intra school sport.
- A safe, healthy and friendly environment that encourages a sense of personal achievement, identity and satisfaction.
- An environment that encourages enjoyment, the development of self-esteem, resilience and confidence.
- An awareness and understanding of fair play.
- The encouragement of cooperation through the development of team skills.
- Lifelong physical, emotional and social benefits.

Guidelines

The purpose of this Guideline is to underpin the practice of all members of the school community. This Guideline applies to students, parents, staff, spectators and coaches/managers.

Governance

The Sports Administrator will, under the direction of the College Principal and the Coordinator of Health and Physical Education oversee the implementation and conduct of sport.

They will ensure:

- All coaches are registered with Working with Vulnerable Persons.
- Variety in and provision of appropriate sporting competition opportunities for all students
- Suitably qualified coaches/managers for all teams.
- Equal access to facilities, equipment, programs and resources for all students
- Promotion of codes of behaviour for officials, parents, coaches.
- Promotion of the rights and responsibilities of participants.
- Suitable acknowledgment for students who participate.
- Adequate first aid kits for all teams readily available for all practices and competition.

Student Code of Behaviour

- Sport is not compulsory; however, once parents have registered via the website, full commitment to that sport is expected.
- Once commitment to school sport is made, it takes precedence over other outside sporting commitments
- Students are expected to check emails and digital noticeboards regularly for correspondence of any sporting information.
- Students are expected to attend all trainings and matches. If they cannot attend they must personally notify their coach/manager.
- Correct sports uniform is to be worn at all times when travelling to and from practices and games.
- Correct safety equipment must be worn where applicable. If students do not meet safety requirements, the coach, Sports Administrator or umpire has the right to refuse participation.
- Transport – students are responsible for their own transport to and from practices and games unless specifically communicated via the Sports Administrator.
- Students who have medical conditions such as asthma, or any other condition that requires medication must alert the team coach/manager of at the start of the season.

Coach/Manager Code of Behaviour

- Treat all players fairly within the context of their sporting activities, regardless of gender, race, place of origin, athletic potential, colour, sexual orientation, religion, political beliefs, socio-economic status and other conditions.
- Encourage players to respect one another and to expect respect for their worth as individuals regardless of their level of play.
- Ensure that the tasks and/or training set are suitable for age, experience, ability, and physical and psychological conditions of the players.
- Avoid situations with your players that could be construed as compromising.
- Do not exploit any coaching relationship to further personal, political or business interests at the expense of the best interest of your players.
- Accept and respect the role of officials in ensuring that competitions are conducted fairly and according to established rules.
- Know and abide by rules, regulations and standards, and encourage players to do likewise. Accept both the letter and the spirit of the rules.

Parent/Guardian Code of Behaviour

- Ensure registration is completed via the school website by the required date
- Registration is a commitment to that sport for the entirety of the roster/season.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of others.
- Remember that your child participates in sport for their own enjoyment, not yours.
- Focus on your child's efforts and performance rather than winning or losing.
- Show appreciation for good performance and skillful plays by all players (including opposing players).
- Respect officials' decisions and teach children to do likewise.
- Do not physically or verbally abuse or harass anyone associated with the sport (player, coach, umpire and so on).
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.



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- Be a positive role model
- Take any concerns in a timely manner to the coach, manager, Sports Administrator, Sports Coordinator or Principal.

Spectator Code of Behaviour

- Respect the decisions of officials.
- Never ridicule or scold a player for making a mistake. Positive comments are motivational.
- Show respect for your team's opponents.
- Do not use violence, harassment or abuse in any form (that is, do not use foul language, sledge or harass players, coaches, officials or other spectators).
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

Consequences of breaching the Guideline

Consequences of breaching the Guideline will be managed on a 'case by case' basis.

30 January 2024

